from the teen services department

hot picks

check out for teens these hot new titles for teens!















ONE TRUE LOVES

By Elise Bryant (YA F Brya)

314 pages 2022 Realistic Fiction

Lenore's best friend Tessa wants her to find true love, but Lenore is still trying to figure out what to do now that she's graduating high school, let alone worry about finding love. She's been accepted to NYU in the fall but doesn't know what she wants to do for the rest of her life. Before she has to make up her mind, her family goes on a summer cruise where Lenore meets Alex, who has his life figured out and a ten year plan in place. And just when Lenore thinks Alex's perfectionist personality couldn't be more annoying, something changes and she might end up finding love where she least expects it. (Grades 9 & up)



LEAGUE OF LIARS

By Astrid Scholte (YA F Scho)

414 pages 2022 Fantasy Fiction

The use of shadow magic, or edem, which can alter time, is illegal in the city of Kardelle. Anyone caught using it is sent to Vardean prison. Cayder has always been fascinated by the prison; his goal is to work as a lawyer and prosecute those who use edem, but he settles for an apprenticeship with a close family friend who is a defense attorney. When his sister Leta is arrested for edem use, Cayder can hardly believe it – sure, they haven't been close since their mother died, but he just can't picture why she would have destroyed an entire village using edem as the authorities claim. So he jumps at the chance to help defend her. As he begins to unravel the truth, he starts to question if those in charge of the law have been lying to them about edem all along. (Grades 7 & up)



HOME IS NOT A COUNTRY

By Safia Elhillo (YA F Elhi)

215 pages 2021 Fantasy Fiction

Elhillo's in-verse novel beautifully weaves the modern life of a Sudanese American teen with cultural superstitions that keep lovers of fantasy and realism engaged to the end. Nima begins to feel isolated and not-enough for her family, friends, or in this country that does not seem to want her. She begins to think about the "what-ifs" of her life. What if her family hadn't left Sudan? What if her father had lived? What if she was a better daughter for her mother? What she doesn't realize is all those thoughts will lead her on a journey that will change her perspective on life forever. This novel is an excellent example of how a celebration of a specific culture can also have universal truths for all who read it. (Grades 6 & up)



WHITE SMOKE: A NOVEL

By Tiffany D. Jackson (YA F Jack)

373 pages 2021 Horror Fiction

After a stay in a psychiatric facility, Mari's looking forward to a fresh start with her new blended family, in a new home, in a new city. That is until her family arrives and the house and neighborhood are not at all what they expected. And when strange things start to occur, that only Mari notices, she starts to think that maybe her past has followed her to her new home. But doors opening on their own, lights turning on, and hearing strange voices is only the beginning of the horrors that await Mari and her family. (Grades 8 & up)



PAN'S LABYRINTH: THE LABYRINTH OF THE FAUN

By Guillermo del Toro (YA F Toro)

256 pages 2019 Fantasy Fiction

Based on Guillermo del Toro's 2006 film *Pan's Labyrinth*, the book not only follows the movie's magical, yet haunting, experience, but also introduces so many beautiful new concepts. The young protagonist, Ofelia, meets many gruesome creatures along her fantastical journey that will steep the reader into her nightmarish reality. I was so impressed with how a classic fairy tale feel could be combined with the cold hard reality of fascist-dominated Spain in the 1940s. The eerie unearthly elements create the perfect dark fairy tale. Reviewed by TAB member Audrey M. (Grades 6 & up)